Oliver Brooks

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Summary

Developer and maintainer of https://learnreverseengineering.com - a site which was purpose built to provide an exercise based approach to learning application reverse engineering. My aim with this website is to make it easier for beginners to access the (outwardly) daunting field of reverse engineering.

I started my career as a software developer for a number of prestigious firms in the UK, over time I transitioned into a more security focused role and I am now fortunate enough to be working as a Principal Security Consultant for NCC Group NA here in Ontario, Canada.

In total I have over 10 years of combined professional experience in the DevSecOps and Information Security Consulting domains.

I am a motivated, detail oriented and perceptive penetration tester with a strong skillset in both web application penetration testing and network penetration testing. Additionally, I have a keen interest in reverse engineering, binary exploitation, exploit development and native application analysis.

The above skillsets have enabled me to earn the OSED, OSWE and OSCP certifications and obtain 29 CVEs (with an additional 16 more soon to be assigned) at the time of writing.

Experience

Principal Security Consultant

NCC Group North America

Jan 2020 - Present (3 years 9 months)

I am the manager of 4 highly skilled security consultants ranging from Associate to Senior career levels, whilst also providing technical leadership to the organization

The majority of my role is comprised of conducting application and network security assessments for various clients, demonstrating expertise in threat assessment and exploitation opportunities

Outside of client work, I frequently perform independent (published) security research to stay up to date with emerging threats and identify potential vulnerabilities in client applications and infrastructure

To summarize my role with NCC Group, I deliver consultancy to the highest level in the practice and ensure client satisfaction at all times. I consistently receive feedback on my ability to convey complex technical/security related topics to client teams in a digestible and accessible manner.

Software Developer

BAE Systems

Jan 2017 - Dec 2020 (4 years)

My time within BAE was split directly down the middle. Half of my career with the company was spent performing Agile software development for client teams, developing and securing large bespoke

web applications using a variety of modern technologies such as Java / NodeJS / Express / Mongo / Angular / React

The second half of my career with BAE Systems was spent working with a specialized and prestigious arm of the company which is responsible for performing product security research and assurance operations on applications for numerous clients.

In this role I was able to develop my vulnerability analysis skillset and fully transition into the information security domain where I have remained since.

Developer

CGI

May 2014 - Dec 2016 (2 years 8 months)

As a consultant within CGI, a large part of my role was integrating with client teams and helping them to accomplish their individual goals.

During my time with CGI I joined and rapidly integrated myself with multiple separate client teams in order to design and develop bespoke, enterprise scale server-side applications for them using Java and Spring.

In addition to my role as a solo client-integrated developer, I also worked as part of an Agile team which developed numerous applications for client teams using modern technologies such as Angular, Elastic Search, Kafka, OrientDB, and Apache NiFi

Worked according to the Agile software development methodology in order to ensure that our client's changing requirements were always met.

Junior Software Developer

Clik

Jun 2013 - Apr 2014 (11 months)

Was the sole developer and publisher of two Android applications, one of which has over 10,000 downloads at the time of writing

Performed requirements elicitation from key stakeholders in order to realize their goal of creating a "client" application to communicate with their flagship desktop application

Delivered both Android applications within the supplied deadlines, with the desired functionality.

Information Systems Technical Support

University of the West of England

Aug 2011 - Aug 2012 (1 year 1 month)

Built a bespoke data visualization dashboard using C#.net to simplify admin workflows and identify data anomolies

Assisted with the development and maintenance of a large ASPX application used across the University.

Education

University of the West of England

Bachelor of Science (BS), Computer Software Engineering

2009 - 2013

1st class degree with honors.

Licenses & Certifications

Offensive Security Exploit Developer (OSED) - OffSec

Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP) - OffSec

Offensive Security Web Expert (OSWE) - OffSec

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Skills

Mentoring • Communication • Vulnerability Assessment • Security Research • Reverse Engineering • C# • Information Security • Go (Programming Language) • Linux • Cloud Computing